

City of Somerville, Massachusetts
Matters of Business of the Board of Aldermen

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

January 8, 2015, 7:00 PM
Aldermanic Chambers

NOTICE: This is NOT the official version of the Board of Aldermen's minutes. While reasonable efforts have been made to assure the accuracy of the data provided, do not rely on this information without first checking with the City Clerk.

OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 PM by Alderman At Large William A. White Jr.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
John M. Connolly	Alderman At Large	Present	
Mary Jo Rossetti	Alderman At Large	Present	
Dennis M. Sullivan	Alderman At Large	Present	
William A. White Jr.	Alderman At Large	Present	
Matthew McLaughlin	Ward One Alderman	Present	
Maryann M. Heuston	Ward Two Alderman	Present	
Robert J. McWatters	Ward Three Alderman	Present	
Tony Lafuente	Ward Four Alderman	Present	
Mark Niedergang	Ward Five Alderman	Present	
Rebekah L. Gewirtz	Ward Six Alderman	Absent	
Katjana Ballantyne	Ward Seven Alderman	Present	

1. Roll Call (ID:10903) Call of the Roll.

<p>Alderman Connolly held a moment of silence for Russ Joyner, Tom Burbridge, and Paul Bain. Alderman McWatters held a moment of silence for Betty Medeiros and Vinny D'Abagnino. Alderman Sullivan held a moment of silence for Thomas Bullen, James Mello, Theresa Gorman, and Tom Brockway. Alderman Heuston held a moment of silence for Bob King. Alderman Niedergang held a moment of silence for Emma DiMasi. Alderman McLaughlin held a moment of silence for Michael Frasier.</p> <p>RESULT: PLACED ON FILE</p>

2. Minutes (ID:10902) Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting, November 25, 2014.

<p>RESULT: APPROVED</p>

CITATIONS

3. Citation 198313 (ID:10904) By Ald. McWatters, and the Entire Board Commending Anthony Stroschio, who has retired after 21 years of dedicated service to the City.

RESULT: APPROVED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

ORDERS, ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS OF MEMBERS

4. Resolution 198314 (ID:10891) By Ald. Connolly, and the Entire Board and the Mayor Supporting the work of the Somerville Police Department.

RESULT: PLACED ON FILE

5. Order 198315 (ID:10892) By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the street lamps at the locations described within.

Alderman Connolly reported that after complaints of lights being out throughout the city, he would like to discuss the contract with the company hired to take care of this problem.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

6. Order 198316 (ID:10893) By Ald. Connolly, Gewirtz That the Commissioner of Public Works arrange for the ash trees on Chapel Street, and citywide, if necessary, be treated to prevent the infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee

7. Order 198317 (ID:10889) By Ald. Rossetti That the attached Boston Globe article re: student housing be referred to the Committee on Legislative Matters.

RESULT: APPROVED

8. Order 198318 (ID:10890) By Ald. Rossetti, Heuston, Niedergang, Lafuente, Ballantyne That this Board discuss an amendment to the Snow Ordinance as it relates to the time frame for clearing sidewalks following a storm.

RESULT: APPROVED

FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee

9. Order 198319 (ID:10899) By Ald. Sullivan, White Jr.
That this Board conduct a public hearing on the new snow removal regulations to solicit feedback and suggestions from the public.
- Alderman Rossetti discussed the current time frame for shoveling being too narrow, and how it impacts working families. Alderman Heuston spoke about adjusting residential and commercial fine levels.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee
10. Order 198320 (ID:10894) By Ald. Niedergang
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the potholes at the locations described within.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
11. Order 198321 (ID:10895) By Ald. Niedergang, McWatters
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the pothole between 108 and 112 Porter Street.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
12. Order 198322 (ID:10896) By Ald. Niedergang
That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the street light on the Community Path near Cedar Street, next to the temporary construction trailer.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
13. Order 198323 (ID:10897) By Ald. Niedergang
That the Commissioner of Public Works report to this Board where homeowners should discharge water pumped out of basements that are flooded in the winter, to avoid water freezing on sidewalks.
- Alderman Niedergang mentioned that it is illegal to pump the water out of the basement and into the streets or sewer. He would like to find a proper solution to this problem.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
FOLLOWUP: Flood Forum Special Committee
14. Order 198324 (ID:10898) By Ald. Niedergang
That the Director of SPCD report to this Board the possibility of putting a community garden and/or a dog park in the eastern part of Junction Park.
- RESULT: APPROVED**
FOLLOWUP: Housing and Community Development Committee

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

COMMUNICATIONS OF THE MAYOR

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| 15. | Mayor's Request
198325
(ID:10863) | Requesting authorization to borrow \$325,000 in a bond, and appropriate the same amount, for design and engineering services associated with Lincoln Park and the Argenziano School Fields | Alderman Lafluent requested to waive the readings of items 15 through 19, referring items 15 through 18 to the Finance Committee, and placing item 19 on file. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.
RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee |
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| 16. | Mayor's Request
198326
(ID:10888) | Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$8,400 from the Department of Environmental Protection for recycling. | RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee |
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| 17. | Mayor's Request
198327
(ID:10878) | Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$7,423 From the MA Department of Fire Services, for the Fire Department's school education program. | RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee |
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| 18. | Mayor's Request
198328
(ID:10879) | Requesting the acceptance of a grant of \$3,395 from the MA Department of Fire Services for the Fire Department's Senior SAFE program. | RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee |
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COMMUNICATIONS OF CITY OFFICERS

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| 19. | Officer's Communication
198329
(ID:10877) | Traffic and Parking Director submitting responses to various Board Orders submitted 12/11/14. | RESULT: PLACED ON FILE |
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NEW BUSINESS

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| 20. | License/Permit
198330
(ID:10905) | Renewing Outdoor Seating License, Boston Burger, 37 Davis Sq. | Alderman Sullivan requested to waive the readings of items 20 through 28, referring item 27 to Committee and approving the rest. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.
RESULT: APPROVED |
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| 21. | License/Permit
198331
(ID:10906) | Renewing Outdoor Seating License, Maya Sol Mexican Grill, 179 Broadway. | RESULT: APPROVED |
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22.	License/Permit 198332 (ID:10907)	Renewing Outdoor Seating License, Gauchao Brazilian Cuisine, 102 Broadway.	RESULT: APPROVED
23.	License/Permit 198333 (ID:10908)	Renewing Outdoor Seating License, Ola Gifts Cafe, 112 Broadway.	RESULT: APPROVED
24.	License/Permit 198334 (ID:10909)	Renewing Outdoor Seating License, True Grounds, 717 Broadway.	RESULT: APPROVED
25.	License/Permit 198335 (ID:10910)	Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Auto Brokers, 182 Washington St.	RESULT: APPROVED
26.	License/Permit 198336 (ID:10911)	Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, James Kiley Co., 15 Linwood St.	RESULT: APPROVED
27.	License/Permit 198337 (ID:10912)	Renewing Used Car Dealers License Class 2, Pearl St Auto, 182 Pearl St.	RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee
28.	License/Permit 198338 (ID:10913)	Renewing Garage License, Inman Motors Sales of Somerville, 463 McGrath Hwy.	RESULT: APPROVED
29.	License/Permit 198339 (ID:10917)	New Garage License, Car Zone, 486 Columbia St., 3 cars inside, 3 outside. Alderman Sullivan requested to waive the readings of items 29 through 33, and refer them to the Licenses and Permits Committee. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.	RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee
30.	License/Permit 198340 (ID:10915)	New Garage License, Mercedes Benz of Boston, 19 Joy St., 22 cars inside, 20 outside.	RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee

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| 31. | License/Permit
198341
(ID:10914) | New Garage License, Mercedes Benz of Boston, 161 Linwood St., 25 cars inside. | RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee |
| 32. | License/Permit
198342
(ID:10916) | New Outdoor Parking License, Mercedes Benz of Boston, 161 Linwood St., 63 cars. | RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee |
| 33. | License/Permit
198343
(ID:10918) | New Livery License, Mass Cab, 45 Endicott Ave., 1 vehicle. | RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Licenses and Permits Committee |

SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

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| 34. | Ordinance
198344
(ID:10920) | By Ald. White Jr.
Re-introducing for approval the Pay to Play Ordinance (#197438) as ordained by this Board on 9/11/14. | Alderman White suggested making a new pay to play ordinance stricter than the previous Ordinance was.
RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Legislative Matters Committee |
| 35. | Mayor's
Request
198345
(ID:10901) | Requesting approval to extend a House Doctor Contract (#120170R2) with CDR Maguire until July 31, 2015. | RESULT: REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee |
| 36. | Mayor's
Request
198346
(ID:10921) | Requesting the confirmation of Ed Bean as Finance Director. | Alderman Heuston requested to waive the readings of items 36 through 40 and approve them. There being no opposition, the motion was approved.
RESULT: APPROVED |
| 37. | Mayor's
Request
198347
(ID:10922) | Requesting the confirmation of Peter Forcellese Jr. as Treasurer/Collector of Taxes. | RESULT: APPROVED |
| 38. | Mayor's
Request
198348
(ID:10925) | Requesting the confirmation of Angela Allen as Purchasing Agent. | RESULT: APPROVED |

39. Mayor's Request 198349 (ID:10926) Requesting the confirmation of Frank Wright as City Solicitor.
RESULT: APPROVED
40. Mayor's Request 198350 (ID:10927) Requesting the confirmation of Stanley Koty as Commissioner of Public Works.
RESULT: APPROVED

LATE ITEMS

41. Order 198351 (ID:10933) By Ald. McWatters That the Commissioner of Public Works replace the street light at Harvard and Monmouth Streets.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee
42. Order 198352 (ID:10928) By Ald. Lafuente That the Commissioner of Public Works repair the street lamp in front of 58 Dartmouth Street. (2nd Request)
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Public Utilities and Public Works Committee
43. Order 198353 (ID:10931) By Ald. Ballantyne That the Commissioner of Public Works meet with this Board's Committee on Energy and Environment to discuss the use of salt and salt substitutes during the winter.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Environment and Energy Special Committee
44. Order 198354 (ID:10930) By Ald. Ballantyne That the Commissioner of Public Works provide the cost break down of last week's snow removal and de-icing and discuss the procedures for determining when to initiate snow removal and de-icing.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Finance Committee
45. Order 198355 (ID:10932) By Ald. Heuston That the City Engineer inform the Ward 2 Alderman about flooding on Oak Street and any steps that can be taken to mitigate it.
RESULT: APPROVED
FOLLOWUP: Flood Forum Special Committee

46. Mayor's Request 198356 (ID:10923) Requesting an appropriation of \$165,000 from Unreserved Fund Balance ("Free Cash") to the School Dept. Curriculum District-Wide Other Instructional Services Account to provide partial funding for the development of an Integrated Data System.

RESULT:	REFERRED FOR RECOMMENDATION
FOLLOWUP:	Finance Committee

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was Adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Submitted by John J. Long, City Clerk.